



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

December 3, 2012

Marie Rodriguez
Director, Natural Resources
U.S. Department of Agriculture
18161 State Highway 4
P.O. Box 359
Jemez Springs, NM 87025

Dear Ms. Rodriguez:

In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act (CAA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 office in Dallas, Texas, has completed its review of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), and Public Use and Access Plan for the Valles Caldera National Preserve. The FEIS was prepared by the Valles Caldera Trust within the United States Department of Agriculture.

EPA Region 6 provided comments on the Draft EIS (DEIS) dated August 4, 2012. EPA rated the DEIS as "EC-2", i.e., EPA had "Environmental Concerns to the Proposed Actions and Requested Additional Information." EPA is pleased that the FEIS includes additional analysis of the proposed action to address our concerns. We have no additional comments and look forward to the receipt of the Record of Decision document.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the FEIS. If you have any questions about the 309 Review Process, please contact Michael Jansky, of my staff, at (214) 665-7451 or by e-mail at jansky.michael@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rhonda Smith", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Rhonda Smith
Chief, Office of Planning
and Coordination